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THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Summary

Market prices of potatoes and vegetables were generally higher in December than in November, reflecting in part seasonal factors and in part changes in prospective supplies occasioned by unusually dry and cold weather in many southern areas and in California, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The final estimate of the late potato crop showed some large decreases in Eastern and Central States, but these were more than offset by increases in the western group. As a result the total late crop is slightly larger than indicated in November but 8 percent below a year earlier and 5 percent below the 10-year average. The regional distribution of the crop, together with the upward trend in motor truck movement, indicates that total car-lot shipments this season probably will be the smallest on record, and that Jan. 1 stocks of merchantable potatoes are likely to be 10 to 15 percent smaller than a year earlier.

Sweetpotato production was slightly larger than in 1937. There was a sharp decrease in the Central Atlantic Coast States, but it was more than offset by increases in the other producing regions. Sweetpotato prices have advanced seasonally in recent weeks.

Unusually dry cold weather in many of the Southern States and in California has damaged new crop vegetables and retarded growth materially. Green peppers in some sections of Florida were a total loss. Because of a sharp increase in the acreage planted to the first crop of 1939 season snap beans, and to early cabbage and fall peppers, the acreage of all new

crop vegetables for fresh market shipment is 2 percent larger than a year earlier. There were moderate decreases, however, in many individual crops. Partly as a result of these changes in prospective supplies and partly because of seasonal factors, market prices of vegetables advanced in early December. Prices of practically every item advanced from a month earlier, but there were about as many declines from a year earlier as advances.

The final estimates of truck crops for market for the 1938 season indicate a high record acreage harvested and a high record tonnage produced. This large supply together with a sharply lower level of demand resulted in prices to growers being about 15 percent lower than in 1937 and marks the first reversal in the upward trend in prices which started in 1933.

Production of vegetables for manufacture in 1938 decreased 7 percent from a year earlier, largely because of a decrease of 13 percent in the harvested acreage. Although the 1938 tonnages and packs of these vegetables were smaller this year, the total supply of canned vegetables is about as large as the record large supply in 1937. Larger carry-overs offset the smaller packs.

POTATOES

The final estimate of the 1938 late potato crop, issued December 19, was only slightly larger than the preliminary estimate issued in November. Relatively important decreases from the preliminary estimates in Maine, Michigan and Wyoming were more than offset by important increases in North Dakota, Idaho, Colorado, Washington, Oregon and California. Thus the late crop in the eight eastern late States was estimated at only 96,600,000 bushels or about 13 percent less than a year earlier and 9 percent less than the 10-year (1927-36) average. The crop in the 10 central late States totaled 111,000,000 bushels, only slightly less than in 1937 and 7 percent below average. In the 12 western late States (excluding the early California crop) production this season totaled 77,400,000 bushels, about 12 percent less than last year but nearly 5 percent larger than the average crop. For the late States as a group, the 1938 crop was 25,000,000 bushels smaller than a year earlier and about 14,000,000 less than the average.

The decline in the crop prospect in the Eastern and Central States just prior to harvest time resulted in a fairly sharp rise in market prices during the past 6 weeks with the greatest gains being made in the far western producing areas. As compared with a year earlier, potato prices in early December were

sharply higher; those in Maine, Idaho and Colorado were as much as 30 to 45 cents per 100-pound sack higher. These gains in prices reflect both the lower total supplies and a shift in the distribution of the crop. It is indicated that demand conditions this season to date have been generally lower than a year earlier. Because of the recent improvement, however, demand for potatoes has strengthened and in December closely approximated that of last December. The prospect is that the demand for potatoes will average stronger throughout the remainder of the 1938 late crop marketing season than in the corresponding period of the previous season.

The seasonal decline in car-lot shipments of potatoes in recent weeks, to only a little over 2,600 cars per week, indicates that the movement of the late crop to January 1 will total less than 60,000 cars. Only once in the past 15 years has the car-lot movement been as small as this season. Apparently the movement by motor truck has been the largest on record, probably close to the equivalent of 75,000 cars. Based upon an analysis of the relation between the size of the late crop in the different areas and the total car-lot movement prior to and after January 1, it is indicated that the car-lot movement after January 1 probably will be the smallest on record and that stocks of merchantable potatoes as of January 1, 1939, will be from 10 to 15 percent smaller than those of a year earlier.

Early reports indicate that the south Florida and Lower Valley Texas new crop will be substantially smaller than that produced in 1938. In the two areas combined, 14,200 acres were planted, compared with 17,700 acres in 1938 and 8,400 acres, the 1928-37 average. New stock from Florida appeared in northern markets early in December and was quoted at $2.25 per bushel at New York. The average for the week ended December 24 had dropped to $1.92. Although no definite information is available concerning the early crop prospects in other Southern States, the low prices received during the past 2 seasons may result in some decrease in acreage. It can be assumed therefore, that total supplies of potatoes available for market during the first half of 1939 probably will be somewhat smaller than in the first half of 1938.

SWEETPOTATOES

Final estimates of the 1938 sweetpotato crop indicate that the crop is unusually small in the Central Atlantic Coast States, one of the principal commercial sweetpotato producing areas. But the crop is slightly larger than last year and the 10-year average in most of the other important producing areas. The United States crop totals 76,647,000 bushels compared with 75,053,000 bushels in 1937 and the 1927-36 average of 70,274,000 bushels.

The car-lot movement has been at a relatively low level in recent weeks, less than 300 cars per week. The total movement from the beginning of the season through December 24 is 6,206 cars against 7,811 cars through December 25, 1937. California, Louisiana, New Jersey, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee are the principal sources.

Market prices have risen in recent weeks, partly as a result of seasonal factors and partly as a result of the influence of the recent rise in Irish potato prices. The usual trend of sweetpotato prices is sharply upward from this time of the year to the end of the marketing season, since in this period all of the supply comes from storage stocks.

Potatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1927-36, annual 1937, and indicated 1938

Group of States and classification	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1927-36	1937	Preliminary 1938	Average 1927-36	1937	Indicated 1938	Average 1927-36	1937	Indicated 1938
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Early:									
Total	392.0	452.0	421.0	80.6	84.4	88.6	31,697	38,136	37,298
Commercial	150.6	183.6	165.4	105.7	111.1	116.3	15,915	20,390	19,230
Other	241.4	268.4	255.6	65.4	66.1	70.7	15,782	17,746	18,068
Intermediate:									
Total	331.0	314.0	291.0	107.8	117.4	130.3	35,816	36,850	37,923
Commercial	137.1	130.8	117.4	151.4	153.7	178.7	20,756	20,101	20,978
Other	193.9	183.2	173.6	77.7	91.4	97.6	15,060	16,749	16,945
18 surplus late:									
Total	2,199.3	2,031.2	1,925.7	119.3	138.9	132.6	262,360	282,172	255,294
3 Eastern	618.0	602.0	578.0	158.4	168.1	153.0	97,933	101,190	88,442
5 Central	1,062.0	902.0	851.0	82.4	93.8	95.4	87,905	84,580	81,154
10 Western	519.8	527.2	496.7	147.9	182.9	172.5	76,521	96,402	85,698
12 other late:									
Total	420.6	376.7	369.9	94.8	98.2	104.8	39,820	36,981	38,782
5 Eastern	59.3	64.7	61.4	139.5	149.2	132.8	8,287	9,655	8,155
5 Central	354.0	304.0	299.0	87.7	87.9	99.6	30,951	26,734	29,792
2 Western	8.0	8.0	9.5	75.6	74.0	87.9	581	592	835
30 late	2,620.0	2,407.9	2,295.6	115.4	132.5	128.1	302,179	319,153	294,076
37 late & intermed.	2,950.6	2,721.9	2,586.6	114.6	130.8	128.4	337,996	356,003	331,999
U. S. total	3,343.0	3,173.9	3,007.6	110.6	124.2	122.8	369,693	394,139	369,297
30 late States:									
8 Eastern	677.3	666.7	639.4	156.8	166.3	151.1	106,220	110,845	96,597
10 Central	1,416.0	1,206.0	1,150.0	83.9	92.3	96.5	118,856	111,314	110,946
12 Western 1/	512.6	504.2	472.2	144.7	173.7	163.8	74,172	87,570	77,353
Total 1/	2,604.9	2,376.9	2,261.6	114.9	130.3	126.0	299,249	309,729	284,896
Calif. early	15.2	31.0	34.0	191.0	304.0	270.0	2,930	9,424	9,180

1/ Excludes California early.

Potatoes: Shipping-point and terminal-market prices per 100-pound sack, specified weeks, 1937-38

Location and variety	Week ended 1937 Dec. 18	1938 Nov. 12	1938 Nov. 19	1938 Nov. 26	1938 Dec. 3	1938 Dec. 10	1938 Dec. 17
Shipping points:	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
F.o.b. usual terms-							
Waupaca, Wis.	.78	.73	.76	.81	.82	.82	.86
Presque Isle, Me.	.61	.80	.91	.94	1.06	1.06	1.06
Rochester, N. Y.	.89	.92	.97	1.05	1.06	1.10	1.12
Grand Rapids, Mich.	.88	.81	.88	.94	.97	.95	.95
F.o.b. cash track-							
Idaho Falls, Idaho	.62	.90	.90	.96	.95	.92	.89
San Luis Valley, Colo.	.69	1.00	1.08	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.06
Warehouse cash to grower- 1/							
Waupaca, Wis.	.58	.50	.52	.54	.58	.58	.61
Presque Isle, Me.	.47	.61	.75	.78	.87	.87	.91
Rochester, N. Y.	.63	.63	.73	.77	.80	.90	.93
Idaho Falls, Idaho	.40	.66	.69	.74	.73	.70	.67
Terminal markets:							
New York City-							
Excl. Russet Burbanks	1.20	1.06	1.08	1.12	1.22	1.40	1.48
Idaho " "	1.82	2.05	2.12	2.22	2.31	2.35	2.35
New stock 2/	3.43	---	---	---	---	4.50	4.25
Chicago-							
Excl. western stock	1.08	1.18	1.25	1.24	1.25	1.28	1.32
Idaho Russet Burbanks	1.39	1.69	1.69	1.78	1.78	1.73	1.69
Colo.Red McClures	1.45	1.81	1.88	1.97	1.93	1.89	1.91
New stock 2/	3.72	---	---	---	---	---	4.40

1/ Bulk per hundredweight. 2/ Bushel price doubled.

Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield, and production, by groups of States, average 1927-36, annual 1937 and 1938

Groups of States	Acreage Av.1927-36	Acreage 1937	Acreage 1938	Yield per acre Av.1927-36	Yield per acre 1937	Yield per acre 1938	Production Av.1927-36	Production 1937	Production 1938
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
1/									
Central Atlantic	66	70	61	126.2	132.3	107.9	8,332	9,264	6,580
Lower Atlantic 2/	272	272	290	82.2	83.5	89.1	22,362	22,725	25,841
South Central 3/	448	457	492	80.4	85.6	81.3	36,023	39,133	40,017
North Central 4/	29	30	27	84.4	90.3	99.6	2,449	2,710	2,688
California	11	11	13	102.0	111.0	117.0	1,108	1,221	1,521
Total U. S.	824	840	883	86.1	89.3	86.8	70,274	75,053	76,647

1/ N.J., Md., and Va.
2/ N.C., S.C., Ga., and Fla.
3/ Ky.,Tenn.,Ala.,Miss.,Ark.,La.,Okla., and Texas.
4/ Ind., Ill., Iowa, Mo., and Kans.

TRUCK CROPS

Early 1939 season truck crops in the Southern States and in California have suffered materially in recent weeks from dry cool weather. In some areas of Florida considerable damage has been caused by unusual frosts to the more tender varieties, such as peppers. Except for cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, onions, and turnips, parts of the late crop of which are normally stored for the winter market, the principal sources of present market supply are the new crops produced in the Southern States and California. Even in the case of cabbage, carrots, celery, and turnips the new crops are rapidly displacing the stored supplies.

As a result of smaller plantings this season and the unfavorable weather in recent weeks, production indications of many of the new crops are smaller than a year earlier. A few exceptions are snap beans, beets, cucumbers, and eggplant. The indications early in December were for a larger crop of green peppers but since the recent freeze it is probable that this crop was reduced below last year.

The total acreage planted or to be planted to fall and winter and spring truck crops reported to date (exclusive of asparagus and onions) totals 242,600 acres or about 2 percent more than was planted to these crops a year ago and about 13 percent more than the 1928-37 average acreage. As compared with last year, sharp increases in the acreage of snap beans, beets, peppers, and cabbage more than offset decreases in a large number of other vegetables.

Although no estimate of the spring cabbage crop is yet available, the sharp increase in the planted acreage, particularly in Texas, indicates that the crop this year will be considerably larger than in 1938. Early reports indicate that a slightly smaller acreage of second early cabbage is to be planted in 1939 than was planted in 1938. Also, the indications point to a slightly smaller planting of early onions but if the dry spell continues in Texas the acreage reduction in the dry land areas probably will be considerable.

The acreage of carrots in both the fall and early States is indicated to be smaller than a year earlier and the estimate of production of fall crop carrots is about 6 percent smaller than last year. Likewise, the acreage and production of fall and winter cauliflower are reduced this season, the latter being below 1938 by 18 percent. Still another truck crop indicated to be smaller than last year is fall and winter celery which is reduced 14 percent. This reduction is due partly to a 5 percent cut in acreage. The acreage of celery in the early States is indicated to be 12 percent smaller than in 1938.

Although the acreage of early lettuce is only slightly below that of a year earlier, production is indicated to be about 9 percent smaller. The production of fall spinach is indicated to be 10 percent smaller than a year ago and the acreage planted in the early group of States is smaller by 9 percent. A very sharp reduction, 20 percent, in the acreage of fall tomatoes is indicated.

Partly because of the unfavorable crop prospect for most fall, and winter, and spring truck crops, occasioned by both reduced plantings and relatively low yield per acre, and partly because of seasonal factors, market prices of truck crops in early December continued the advance which started in early November. Practically all items were substantially higher than a month earlier but as compared with a year earlier the number of truck crops that were higher in price was about offset by an equal number that were lower. The usual trend of "prices of all truck crops combined" is upward from the early fall to late winter since it is the period of the year when the source of market supplies shifts from the relatively heavy production of home and local gardens and northern late crops to the relatively small stored portions of the late crops and the early production in the South and California.

Review of the 1938 Season

The final estimates of production of truck crops for fresh market shipment for the 1938 season, just recently issued, indicate a total of 6,647,000 tons or about 6 percent more than the record high production in 1937 of 6,255,000 tons. The larger tonnage in 1938 was due in part to an increase of 1 percent in the acreage harvested and in part to a 5 percent increase in yield per acre. The average yield per acre in 1938 was the highest since 1930 and resulted largely from generally favorable growing weather during most of the truck crop producing season.

The large volume of truck crops produced in 1938, coupled with a relatively sharp reduction in consumer purchasing power, forced average prices received by producers to the lowest level since 1933. The general level of prices of all truck crops for fresh market shipment declined about 15 percent from the relatively high level reached in 1937 and was only 7 percent above the record low level reached in 1932. Prices of truck crops for market had risen steadily from the low level of 61.3 percent of the 1924-29 average in 1932 to 77.3 percent in 1937, or a gain of 26 percent.

Practically all of this advance is attributed to an increase of nearly 50 percent in consumer purchasing power since production increased during the period.

Production of truck crops for manufacture totaled 3,580,000 tons in 1938 compared with the record high total of 3,841,000 tons in 1937. The harvested acreage of these crops was decreased about 13 percent but yields per acre averaged about 7 percent higher than in 1937. Because of the relatively high yields, the pack of most canned vegetables in 1938 was larger than anticipated earlier in the season. As indicated by a decline of 8 percent in the prices paid to growers and the decreased acreage, packers made a serious effort to reduce the pack in 1938 from the record large pack of 1937. Although the combined total pack in 1938 was smaller than in 1937, a sharp increase in carry-over resulted in a total supply about as large as the record large total supply available in the previous year.

Truck crops: Wholesale prices at New York, averages for specified weeks, 1937-38

Commodity	Unit	Week ended 1937 Dec. 11	1938 Nov. 12	1938 Nov. 19	1938 Nov. 26	1938 Dec. 3	1938 Dec. 10
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Beans,lima,Calif.	35-lb. crate	3.25	4.12	4.27	1/ 4.12	1/ 4.38	4.69
Fla.	bu.	---	---	---	3.38	3.75	5.00
Beans, snap,green,Fla.	"	2.67	1.44	1.36	1.28	1.37	1.45
" " wax, "	"	2.85	2.19	2.31	1.98	1.77	1.96
Beets, new crop	½ crate	1.71	1.48	1.41	1.16	1.04	1.04
Beets, topped	bu.	.40	.38	.38	.51	.54	.53
Broccoli, western	pony crate	2.31	1.81	1.91	2.14	3.10	3.59
Cabbage,domestic, new	100#	2.46	2.29	1.44	1.68	2.00	2.26
" Danish, N.Y.	"	1.54	.64	.68	.62	.88	.74
Carrots, Calif.	Lettuce crate	3.54	3.31	3.75	3.97	4.00	3.81
Carrots,topped, N.Y.	bu.	.79	.75	.75	.74	.88	.89
Cauliflower, eastern	crate	.89	.58	.79	1.38	2.62	---
" western	pony crate	.70	---	---	---	---	2.58
Celery, eastern	2/3 crate	1.88	1.44	1.42	1.70	1.53	1.54
" western	½ crate	2.46	2.42	2.26	2.48	1.90	1.94
Cucumbers, southern	bu.	2.40	2.56	1.96	2.40	2.44	3.12
Eggplant, Fla.	crate	3.09	2/ 2.03	2/1.90	1.88	1.72	1.88
Lettuce, western,Iceberg	4-5 doz. crate	3.29	2.88	3.42	4.68	4.65	4.33
Lettuce,Big Boston,Fla.	2-doz. crate	1.25	---	1.17	1.21	1.62	2.39
Onions, yellow	50-lb. sack	1.20	.92	.90	.96	1.05	1.12
Onions, Sweet Spanish	50-lb. sack	1.32	1.18	1.22	1.27	1.29	1.28
Peas,green,western 3/	bu.	2.31	2.39	3.23	3.36	3.25	4.18
" " Florida	"	---	---	1/3.06	3.31	3.19	3.98
Peppers, "	crate	3.69	2.03	2.17	2.08	2.05	2.04
Spinach	bu.	1.00	.67	.49	.64	.62	.85
Sweetpotatoes	"	.88	1.19	1.28	1.45	1.44	1.38
Tomatoes, Fla.	lug box	2.78	1.95	2.53	2.58	2.45	2.65
Turnips, topped	bu.	.38	.38	.42	.39	.65	.54

1/ Average for 1 day.
2/ Fancy grade.
3/ Does not include pole peas.

Truck crops: Wholesale prices at Chicago, averages for specified weeks, 1937-38

Commodity	Unit	Week ended 1937 Dec. 11	1938 Nov. 12	1938 Nov. 19	1938 Nov. 26	1938 Dec. 3	1938 Dec. 10
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Beans, lima	35-lb. crate	3.45	3.28	4.35	4.50	4.50	3.50
Beans, snap, new crop-							
Green	bu.	2.78	1.53	1.61	1.62	1.46	1.70
Wax	"	3.02	---	---	2.59	1.98	2.33
Beets, old, topped	"	.54	.29	.31	.27	.30	.30
" new, bunched	½ western crate	1.67	1.25	1.24	1.14	1.00	.98
Broccoli	Pony crate	1.83	1.66	1.72	1.96	2.54	2.78
Cabbage, Danish	100 lbs.	1.76	.78	.78	.88	.94	---
" Pointed	"	3.04	---	2.20	2.02	2.20	2.78
Carrots, new, Calif.	Western crate	2.58	2.87	3.26	3.37	3.23	3.06
" old, topped	bu.	.42	.32	.36	.34	.36	.40
Cauliflower, Calif.	Pony crate	.96	---	---	---	2.06	2.06
" , N. Y.	L.I. crate	1.32	1.26	1/1.19	1.78	2.08	---
Celery, Calif.	½ crate	2.28	1.98	2.08	2.04	2.06	2.02
Cucumbers, Fla.	bu.	3.00	2.59	2.40	2.88	3.12	3.15
Eggplant, Fla.	1½ bu. crate	3.42	2.21	2.28	2.69	2.05	1.85
Lettuce, Iceberg	4-5 doz. crate	3.02	2.72	3.30	4.00	4.45	4.10
Onions, yellow	50# sack	1.08	.70	.75	.79	.94	.88
" Sweet Spanish	"	1.11	.92	.93	.93	1.01	.98
Peas, pole	bu.	3.00	2/ 2.84	3.88	4.25	4.68	4.84
Peppers, new, Fla.	1½ bu. crate	4.02	1.92	2.03	2.48	2.25	1.95
" old	"	2.98	1.85	1.78	1.88	1.99	1.74
Spinach	bu.	---	.54	.52	.56	.78	.70
" new, Texas	"	.98	---	---	---	.89	.89
Sweetpotatoes	"	1.20	1.41	1.40	1.34	1.38	1.37
Tomatoes, new, Fla.	Lug box	3.60	3/ 2.50	2.54	2.38	2.92	2.94
" old, Calif. and Tex. 2/	"	3.23	2.09	2.13	2.28	2.05	---
Turnips, topped	bu.	.68	.32	.32	.32	.38	---
" new, bunched	½ western crate	3/ 1.50	---	---	3/1.25	1.14	1.04

1/ Fair quality.
2/ Fair to good.
3/ Average for 1 day.

Truck crops: Commercial acreage and production for market, average 1928-37, annual 1938, and indicated 1939 as reported up to December 19

Commodity and group	Acreage: 10-year average 1928-37	Acreage: 1938	Acreage: 1939	Unit	Production: 10-year average 1928-37	Production: 1938	Production: 1939
Asparagus 1/	Acres	Acres	Acres	1,000			
Calif.	2/ 65,580	71,510	77,900	crates	2/ 6,825	5,642	---
S. C. and Ga.	2/ 12,640	10,100	9,500	"	2/ 431	431	---
Total early	2/ 78,220	81,610	87,400	"	2/ 7,256	6,073	---
Late	2/ 24,840	31,190	35,880	"	2/ 2,222	3,685	---
All States	2/103,060	112,800	123,280	"	2/ 9,478	9,758	---
Total, excepting manuf. in:							
Calif.	2/ 60,960	65,290	---	"	2/ 4,946	6,036	---
Snap beans				1,000			
Fall	14,980	15,000	21,000	bushels	1,313	1,475	2,280
All States	135,720	170,310	---	"	11,293	14,278	---
Beets							
Early	2/ 5,180	6,100	6,600	"	2/ 772	854	
All States	2/ 9,980	10,870		"	2/ 1,753	1,928	
Cabbage 1/							
Fall	1,250	2,600	2,600	Tons	8,200	16,800	15,800
Early	42,920	46,100	54,800	"	227,900	237,400	---
Second early	16,180	20,600	19,900	"	86,200	128,500	---
All States	165,480	184,690	---	"	1,082,200	1,483,700	---
Carrots 1/				1,000			
Fall	5,200	8,750	8,600	bushels	2,583	4,375	4,128
Early	3/ 8,810	10,270	8,900	"	3/ 1,523	1,697	---
All States	31,900	43,320	---	"	11,496	15,775	---
Cauliflower				1,000			
Fall and winter	9,070	8,200	7,900	crates	2,368	2,587	2,119
All States	28,460	28,780	---	"	6,993	8,438	---
Celery							
Fall andwinter	7,270	9,750	9,250	"	1,282	2,048	1,758
Early	6,330	9,200	8,100	"	2,088	2,742	---
All States	33,810	41,550	---	"	9,123	11,868	---
Cucumbers				1,000			
Fall	1,550	2,000	1,800	bushels	115	100	108
All States	44,980	43,510	---	"	4,153	4,595	---
Eggplant							
Fall	1,220	1,450	1,500	"	191	195	270
All States	3,590	4,420	---	"	804	961	---
Kale							
Virginia	1,780	1,050	700	"	619	514	280
Lettuce				1,000			
Early	44,190	37,000	36,500	crates	5,259	4,776	4,345
All States	154,380	149,340	---	"	19,458	19,270	---
Onions				1,000			
Early	2/ 43,270	64,080	4/	sacks	2/ 2,172	2,168	---
All States	2/112,540	137,920	---	"	2/ 13,657	14,905	---
Green Peppers				1,000			
Fall	2,340	3,800	4,400	bushels	427	473	550
All States	17,480	21,070	---	"	3,960	4,880	

Continued -

Truck crops: Commercial acreage and production for market, average 1928-37, annual 1938, and indicated 1939 as reported up to December 19 - Contd.

Commodity and group	Acreage: 10-year average 1928-37	Acreage: 1938	Acreage: 1939	Unit	Production: 10-year average 1928-37	Production: 1938	Production: 1939
Spinach	Acres	Acres	Acres	1,000			
Fall	2,700	2,700	2,700	bushels	747	972	878
Early	38,410	44,840	40,650	"	7,300	6,578	---
All States	57,230	65,900	---	"	12,465	12,199	---
Tomatoes							
Fall	5,700	9,000	6,700	"	346	350	---
All States	169,380	222,050	---	"	18,729	24,312	---
Total early excl.onions & asparagus	215,088	238,410	242,600				

1/ Includes undetermined quantities of production used for manufacture, frozen pack, etc. 2/ Average 1927-36. 3/ Texas only. 4/ Estimates for Texas have been revised to an actual acreage basis as contrasted with earlier reports which took into account difference in widths of rows. 1939 revised figures not available but acreage showed slight decrease on old basis.

Truck crops and potatoes: Car-lot (rail and boat) shipments from originating points in the United States for the week ended December 17, 1938 with comparisons

Item	Week ended: 1937 Dec. 18	1938 Nov. 12	1938 Nov. 19	1938 Nov. 26	1938 Dec. 3	1938 Dec. 10	1938 Dec.17
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Beans, snap and lima	107	193	368	352	293	163	188
Beets	21	14	41	27	22	23	38
Cabbage	633	388	445	343	464	604	413
Carrots	326	214	212	199	266	273	224
Cauliflower	296	189	67	52	67	202	291
Celery	802	633	706	511	497	605	520
Cucumbers	2	50	36	32	8	7	3
Eggplant	1	7	5	7	5	3	5
Greens, except spinach	188	79	50	76	154	184	155
Honey Dew melons	0	25	10	0	0	0	0
Lettuce	1,126	878	917	801	650	747	965
Mixed vegetables	639	324	334	324	550	704	668
Onions	459	510	588	483	640	530	389
Peas, green	77	74	29	23	6	7	23
Peppers	28	83	84	48	57	49	42
Spinach	230	54	106	116	256	252	276
Sweetpotatoes	337	244	417	222	250	219	272
Tomatoes	79	294	190	117	50	60	63
Turnips and rutabagas	12	76	10	14	10	13	12
Total truck crops	5,363	1/4,335	4,615	3,747	4,245	4,645	4,547
Potatoes, total	3,326	3,092	3,094	2,290	3,200	2,867	2,639
Early	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Intermediate	2	65	57	16	22	13	6
Late	3,324	3,027	3,036	2,274	3,178	2,854	2,633
Grand total all vegetables	8,689	7,427	7,709	6,037	7,445	7,512	7,186

1/ Includes 3 cars asparagus and 3 of casaba melons. ---NOTE: In the case of many commodities, car-lot shipments decrease as the source of supply shifts to those producing areas where the motor-truck is the principal means of transporation; available market supplies, therefore, are frequently larger than indicated by this carlot shipment report.

Commercial acreage and production of 22 truck crops, 1929-38 1/

Year	Acreage			Production			Index of prices rec'd. by prod. 1924-29 = 100	
	For manufacture	For market	Total	For manufacture	For market	Total	For manufacture	For market
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 tons	1,000 tons	1,000 tons		
1929	1,184	1,290	2,474	3,042	5,692	8,734	100.2	96.0
1930	1,378	1,440	2,818	3,344	5,829	9,173	98.5	87.1
1931	1,121	1,485	2,606	2,394	5,738	8,132	84.0	73.8
1932	782	1,520	2,302	2,047	5,694	7,741	65.5	61.3
1933	897	1,427	2,324	1,990	5,069	7,059	69.4	65.2
1934	1,155	1,627	2,782	2,641	5,947	8,588	75.7	66.4
1935	1,457	1,603	3,060	3,358	5,830	9,188	77.9	72.0
1936	1,368	1,658	3,026	3,330	6,094	9,424	83.9	75.9
1937	1,564	1,691	3,255	3,841	6,255	10,096	88.2	77.3
1938	1,359	1,707	3,066	3,581	6,647	10,228	80.8	65.7

1/ Crops for market: artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn (N.J.), cucumbers, eggplant, kale, lettuce, onions, green peas, green peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons. Crops for manufacture: asparagus (Calif.), lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage for kraut, sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, green peas, pimientos, spinach and tomatoes.